

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20 NSC-07

NSCE-00 L-03 INRE-00 H-03 PRS-01 DRC-01 SSO-00 /092 W

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O R 071546Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2332

INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 07312

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, GW

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - CSA (CZECHOSLOVAK AIRLINES)

CONTRACT WITH DAVIS AGENCY FOR U.S. CIVIL/MILITARY

CHARTERS OUT OF FRANKFURT

1. AVIATION OFFICIAL NIESTER REPORTED TO EMBASSY MAY 7 THAT DLH, AS GENERAL AGENT FOR CSA, HAD FILED FOR TRAFFIC RIGHTS ON BEHALF OF CSA TO OPERATE TWO US CIVIL MILITARY CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM FRANKFURT TO NEW YORK ON MAY 14 AND 25 UNDER CONTRACT TO DAVIS AGENCY. AIRCRAFT TO BE USED ARE IL-62.

2. NIESTER EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THIS DEVELOPMENT, WHICH HE BELIEVES WOULD ESTABLISH AN UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT. IN VIEW OF THE NATURE OF SUCH FLIGHTS, HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE US REACTION PRIOR TO A DECISION ON THE PART OF THE GERMAN AVIATION AUTHORITIES. ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY YET TO CHECK THE QUESTION WITH DR. REHM, NIESTER PERSONALLY FELT THAT FROM A POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW, A PECULIAR SITUATION MIGHT DEVELOP WHERE BLOC-COUNTRY CARRIERS, CONFIDENTIAL

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ON THE BASIS OF UNECONOMIC BIDS, ENTERED A FIFTH

FREEDOM MARKET INVOLVING THE CHARTER CARRIAGE OF MEMBERS OF NATO FORCES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE US.

3. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, ALL BLOC CARRIER LANDINGS AND OVERFLIGHTS OF THE FRG ARE SUBJECT TO CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE WESTERN ALLIES. THE ALLIED EMBASSIES NORMALLY CONCUR ROUTINELY IN SUCH FLIGHTS (SCHEDULED AND CHARTER ACTIVITY BY CSA, TAROM, LOT, ETC.) AND WE HAVE NOT RECOMMENDED AGAINST APPROVAL OF A BLOC FLIGHT IN YEARS. THE ALLIES HAVE, HOWEVER, A BASIS FOR RECOMMENDING TO THE FRG THAT IT DISAPPROVE BLOC FLIGHTS FOR POLITICAL REASONS. (EMBASSY RECALLS ALSO THAT THE CZECHS HAVE RECENTLY TURNED DOWN A MODERN AIR TRANSPORT APPLICATION FOR BERLIN/PRAGUE CHARTERS (STATE 89871) BUT WE QUESTION WHETHER IT IS DESIRABLE TO BRING THIS CONSIDERATION INTO THE SITUATION BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COMMERCIAL VALUE OF US/FRG CIVIL/MILITARY CHARTER FLIGHTS AS COMPARED WITH THE OCCASIONAL BERLIN/CSSR CHARTER).

4. EMBASSY URGENTLY REQUESTS THE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE AND IF POSSIBLE CLARIFICATION WHETHER THE CAB WOULD CONSIDER SUCH OPERATIONS TO COME UNDER NORMAL OFF-ROUTE CHARTER FLIGHTS COVERED IN THE CSA PERMIT ISSUED BY THE CAB. ALSO, ASIDE FROM THE QUESTION OF TRAFFIC RIGHTS, REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS AS TO THE POLITICAL AND PUBLIC ASPECTS OF THE DAVIS CONTRACT, WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE UNDESIRABLE. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH MR. DAVIS. HILLENBRAND

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